

Galax City Council

Minutes

February 22, 2016

Galax City Council convened in regular session in City Council Chambers on February 22, 2016 at 7:30 pm.

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order with the following Council persons present and they are as listed: Mayor Mitchell, Vice Mayor Greene, Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Crouse, Councilwoman Plichta, Councilman Lazo, and Councilman Davis.

Councilwoman Plichta prayed the opening prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Crouse made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 8, 2016. Vice Mayor Greene seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea, and Councilman Davis – yea.

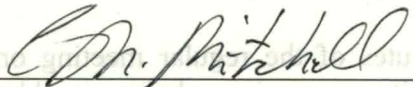
Keith Barker informed Council that Judy Brannock, with the Chamber of Commerce, had requested Council's approval of a festival event. The event that The Chamber would sponsor would coincide with the Memories on Main Car Show on May 28. Mr. Barker explained that a bike ride would depart from Felts Park that morning, a police officer would assist with the crossing of East Stuart Drive. After riding to Fries, participants could ride back or catch a shuttle back to town. Riders would receive vouchers for downtown restaurants and shops. Grayson Street from Main to Jefferson will remain closed after the car show for continued events. Riders could purchase tickets for the Rex Theater show that night. Mr. Barker noted that the Chamber volunteers would handle logistics of the event. Councilwoman Plichta made the motion to approve the festival event. Councilwoman Crouse seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following votes: Mayor Mitchell – yea, Vice Mayor Greene – yea, Councilman Garner – yea, Councilwoman Crouse – yea, Councilwoman Plichta – yea, Councilman Lazo – yea, and Councilman Davis – yea.

Ray Kohl, Galax Tourism Director, gave Council an update on Tourism related efforts. Mr. Kohl informed Council that the Visitor's Center had received visitors from all states in the U.S. except for Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota in 2015.

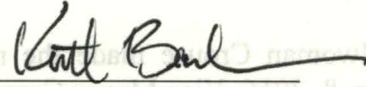
Jessica Milby, Assistant Tourism Director, gave Council an update on the Galax Farmer's Market. She explained that they intend to have events and classes at the market to draw more people in. Ms. Milby was pleased to announce that the Farmer's Market would soon be accepting the SNAP/EBT Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. She said that they are in the process of filing the necessary paperwork and waiting for the card reader to implement the program. Ms. Milby noted that it is the choice of the vendors if they participate in the program because of a delay in receiving payment their payment for selling their goods. There will also be promotional events such as "Double Dollars" to encourage shopping at the Farmer's Market.

Mayor Mitchell asked if there were any citizen comments. Mike & Diane Birmingham addressed Council regarding the condition of the sidewalks on Parkwood Drive. After a short discussion, Mr. Barker advised the Berminghams that until the funds were available to re-build the sidewalks, the City would check to see if some repairs could be made to some of the areas needing attention the most.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:20 p.m.



Mayor



Clerk